

## Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title:	The WIC Program: Background, Trends, and Economic Issues—2009 Edition		
Type of Report (ERR, EIB, EB)	ERR		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Influential Scientific Information	
Agency:	Economic Research Service	<input type="checkbox"/>	Highly Influential Scientific Assessment
	USDA		
Agency Contact:	Elise Golan, egolan@ers.usda.gov		
Subject of Review:	The mission of the WIC program is to safeguard the health of low-income women, infants, and children up to age 5 who are at nutritional risk, by providing supplemental food, nutrition education, and referrals to health care and other social services. WIC is the USDA's third-largest food and nutrition assistance program with Federal expenditures of \$5.5 billion in fiscal 2007. Almost half of all infants and about one-quarter of all children 1-4 years of age in the United States participate in the program. The Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-265), that authorized funds for the WIC program, expires on September 30, 2009. Reauthorization provides an opportunity to examine issues associated with the operation and effectiveness of the program. The goal of this report is to provide a better understanding of how WIC works, its history and program trends, and to inform public debate on major economic issues facing the program.		
Purpose of Review:	The purpose of the review is to ensure the high-quality of the economic analysis, transparent explanation of methods, objective interpretation of results, and effective communication to the intended audience.		
Type of Review:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Panel Review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individual Reviewers
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):	
Timing of Review (Est.):	Start:	07/31/08	End: XX/XX/XX Completed: XX/XX/XX
Number of Reviewers:	<input type="checkbox"/>	3 or fewer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4 to 10 <input type="checkbox"/> More than 10
Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review:	Economists		
Reviewers selected by:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Agency	<input type="checkbox"/> Designated Outside Organization
	Organization's Name:		
Opportunities for Public Comment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
	If yes, briefly state how and when these opportunities will be provided:		
	How:		
	When:		
Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

